AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Replace the paragraph on page 1, immediately after the title (and what was added by way of the "Preliminary Amendment" dated August 27, 2003) with:

This patent application is a divisional of U.S. <u>Patent Application No.</u> appln. no. 09/600,826 filed September 7, 2000, <u>issued as U.S. Patent 6,770,742</u>, which is the U.S. national phase of PCT/EP99/00405 filed January 22, 1999, which claims priority to DE 19802377.4, filed January 22, 1998, all of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

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